

Routes to tour in Germany

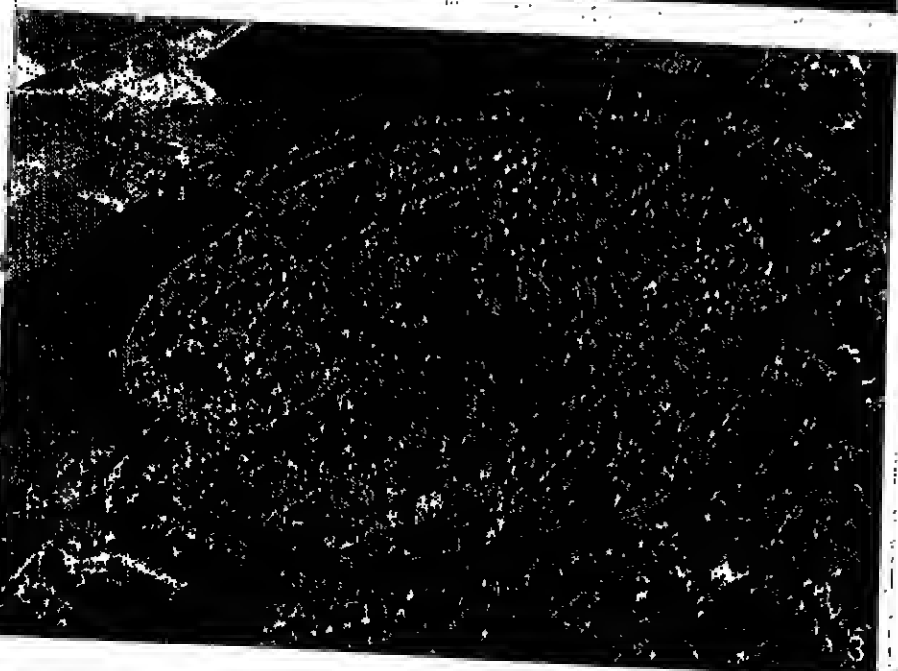
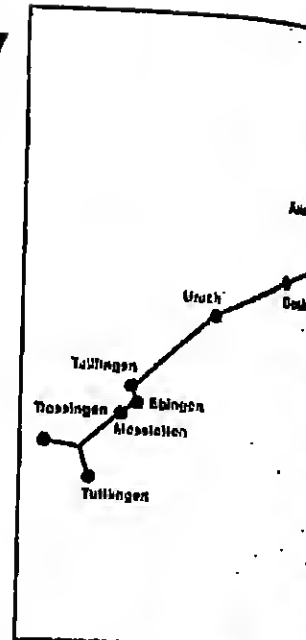
The Swabian Alb Route

German roads will get you there. South of Stuttgart the Swabian Alb runs north-east from the Black Forest. It is a range of hills full of fossilised reminders of prehistory. It has a blustery but healthy climate, so have good walking shoes with you and scale a few heights as you try out some of the 6,250 miles of marked paths. Dense forests, caves full of stalactites and stalagmites, ruined castles and rocks that invite you to clamber will ensure variety.

You will also see what you can't see from a car: rare flowers and plants. The route runs over 125 miles through health resorts and nature reserves, passing Baroque churches, late Gothic and Rococo architecture and Hohenzollern Castle, home of the German Imperial family. Visit Germany and let the Swabian Alb Route be your guide.

- 1 View of the Hegau region, near Tuttlingen
- 2 Heidenheim
- 3 Nördlingen
- 4 Urach
- 5 Hohenzollern Castle

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Kohl's own brand of leadership emerges

When Helmut Kohl took over as Federal Chancellor it looked as if he would have most work to do in domestic affairs, especially in balancing the budget and fighting unemployment.

From his first day in office he was called on to play his part in foreign policy.

Those who were expecting him to take the side of government business as well to his Foreign Minister, Dietrich Genscher, were soon disappointed.

Preparing his foreign visits the Chancellor engaged in plain language and clear outlines.

A report on the Williamsburg summit provided an opportunity of showing the way for his next major visit, which will take him to Moscow.

But he had to say on the eve of his visit that the Soviet capital sounded like a city of the future.

He had a number of suggestions on how the Stuttgart summit might yet be a success and how new and specific guidelines might be agreed to accelerate the process of integration.

There could be no mistaking his warning that Bonn would not be increasing its financial contribution to the EEC unless definite progress toward integration could be expected.

His appeal to EEC leaders was a high stake by the Bonn Chancellor. If he failed to carry them with him and the Stuttgart summit falls it would be a personal failure.

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firm warning to the Soviet leaders not to misread the situation or harbour false hopes.

Herr Kohl said his piece on the assumption that it was better to state the German case plainly and unequivocally than cautiously to trade in ifs and buts.

He would be holding his talks in Moscow on the basis of Bonn's firm foundation in the Western community, he said, adding that: "That is precisely what makes us credible in the East."

Unlike his predecessor, Helmut Schmidt, Herr Kohl does not plan to don the mantle of a mediator or an interpreter.

He feels it is enough to outline German interests and to listen carefully to what the Russians have to say.

Yet, he can still imagine that such ties do more than serve the purpose of establishing good-neighbourly relations. They might also benefit the medium-range missile talks.

The Chancellor was equally forthright when it came to the EEC summit in Stuttgart. He left little doubt how arduous the preparations for the summit had been and how slight the prospects of success were.

But he did not prefer, despite the risk of failure in his bid to achieve European success during his chairmanship of the European Council, to revert for safety's sake to vague formulations.

He frankly outlined the problems the European Community currently faces and was particularly scathing at the egotism of some other EEC members.

"I feel," he said, "that we in Europe have grown a little too easy-going politically. We have relied on the EEC functioning automatically."

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UN Secretary-General in Bonn

The Secretary-General of the United Nations, Perez de Cuellar, made this month his first official visit to the Federal Republic of Germany. He held talks with Bonn Chancellor Helmut Kohl (pictured) and Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher. Subjects discussed included Namibia and disarmament and the Third World. Mr Perez said the generous German cash support had helped United Nations development programmes.

(Photo: Sven Simon)

Arms control proposal by Chancellor

Chancellor Kohl's six points on arms control show that he is a man of compromise. He has no objections to negotiations on British or French nuclear weapons; he merely rules them out of the present round of Geneva talks.

This, astutely, indicates his readiness to allow them to count in future in East-West balance of power equations.

It is a valid point, since the enormous programmed growth in what are now relatively insignificant potentials is the real problem.

Herr Kohl's call on the Soviet Union to reduce the number of its medium-range missile systems is limited to systems aimed at Western Europe.

In the case of missiles stationed in Asia he calls for an embargo, with systems withdrawn from Europe not being transferred there.

The Chancellor thus gives priority to regional, European security over the global balance of power.

This is not only common sense; it is also strictly in accordance with the negotiating concept on which Nato originally agreed.

It formed the basis of the compromise proposals drawn up last summer in Geneva by the chief US and Soviet negotiators.

Unfortunately these proposals were rejected in Washington and Moscow, but they still seem as desirable in Helmut Kohl's eyes as they were in Helmut Schmidt's.

It is remarkable for the Chancellor to

Continued on page 3

Behind French attitudes on security

under a Socialist President of all people, especially when in coalition with the Communist, lies with Nato should be re-emphasised.

There are probably two main reasons, the first being the immediate danger arising from the Soviet Union's modern arms build-up for Western Europe in particular.

This change in reality demands, from the viewpoint of Cartesian logic, closer ties with France's allies. So France now endorses the Nato dual-track decision to which, by virtue of its special position in the alliance, it is not a party.

The second reason is at least equally important. It is that the pacifist trend that has been in evidence in several Western countries don't agree with the French security concept.

Indeed, it jeopardises France's consistent interpretation of sovereignty. France's special role in Nato presupposes a North Atlantic pact that is fully intact and an unquestioned defence readiness in all member-countries.

If this readiness appears in any way questionable French sovereignty, which is basically a political claim and does not slightly military autonomy, is overshadowed by fresh risks.

That is the point of the criticism of pacifism made by M. Mauroy in his Paris speech. It is made primarily with Germany in mind.

If the Germans were no longer prepared to defend their country it could hardly fail to become a focus of the Soviet Union.

Herbert Kremp
(Die Welt, 10 June 1983)

Weinberger uses visit to tell allies about revised Pentagon ideas

US Defence Secretary Casper Weinberger's visit to Bonn brought to light a number of points that are important for the future of Western Europe and the Atlantic alliance.

The Americans are in the process of reviewing their global strategic outlook in several major respects.

One is the concept of horizontal escalation such as might occur in South-West Asia or, put it more clearly, the Gulf.

Starting with the Tehran hostages, the Soviet advance into Afghanistan and the oil crisis as it assumed increasingly alarming proportions the Pentagon has devoted thought to the subject.

Reports were compiled and submitted to the North Atlantic Council in 1981.

They begin with the point made by President Carter that the Gulf was a region of vital interest to the United States and then review the possibilities of averting a conflict by means of suitable precautionary measures.

The basic assumption that underlies the Pentagon studies is that the Soviet Union aims to use force to change the situation in the Gulf and establish a military presence there.

It is the first time there has been a departure, even in strategic thinking, from

the classic doctrine of the Western alliance whereby, in the event of an enemy attack, the defence is to be put up where the attack takes place.

The Pentagon papers, partly published as Congressional reports, reach the conclusion that an attack in the Gulf ought to be answered by military counter-measures in other parts of the world too.

The response could be in Cuba, Korea or even Central Europe. This is the theory behind geographical, or "horizontal" escalation of a clash between the superpowers that occurs outside Europe.

Official admissions may not have been made but Western European governments have been most upset by this linkage of distant conflicts with the establishment of a military backdrop for use at least as a threat in Central Europe.

Opponents of missile modernisation have implied there is a connection between the stationing of new medium-range US missiles in Western Europe and this strategic reappraisal by the Pentagon.

The missiles might thus appear to be offensive weapons and not purely defensive in character. But this inference has always been nonsensical.

A missile attack could never be launched by 108 Pershing 2 missiles so limited in range as to be unable even to reach SS-20 launching facilities in Western Russia.

The Americans have now realised that their 1979/80 Gulf scenario is no longer appropriate, and that was what Mr Weinberger confirmed in Bonn.

In Washington today a military clash between the superpowers in the Gulf is felt to be the most likely form a conflict might take.

There are several reasons why, the first being that Soviet armed forces are grouped in just the same way as they were three-and-a-half years ago, before the invasion of Afghanistan.

Sixty-five per cent of land-based and strategic air force capacity is aimed at targets in Central Europe, 25 per cent at South and East Asia and only five to 10 per cent at areas to the south of Russia, i.e. the Near and Middle East.

Second, as America now sees it, internal conditions in the Eastern Bloc and its economic and military resources rule out a major military advance to the south.

Third, by limiting the scale of their commitment in Afghanistan the Russians are clearly felt to be indicating that they have no intention of going any further.

Their most plausible political strategy in the oil region is in keeping with the oldest formula of Soviet expansionist policy: to encourage social revolutionist movements in this part of the world.

The great unknown quantity in this context is the influence of the compet-

OAU tries to maintain a steady course

The 20th anniversary year of the Organisation of African Unity is overshadowed by a serious crisis. The unity envisaged by the OAU's founding fathers 20 years ago has remained wishful thinking.

Its statutory principles, such as non-intervention and respect for colonial frontiers, have failed to withstand the many local conflicts.

The ongoing clash over West Sahara, which twice delayed the 19th OAU summit in Tripoli, has now beset the third attempt to hold a summit in Addis Ababa.

The dispute over membership for the Saharawi Arab Republic, proclaimed by the Polisario liberation front, as the 31st OAU member-country reflect not just the ethnic problems that drive a wedge between many parts of Africa.

It also reflects the growing contrast between extremist and moderate groups of states and their respective interests in the latest conflict.

While Libya and Algeria are among Polisario's supporters, Morocco lays claims of its own to the former Spanish Sahara and is supported by others.

The breaking strain to which the

ing Islamic revolution that is so strikingly effective in Iran. Last but not least, the hove realised that their escalation was wildly unrealistic in Europe.

It is not merely that the treaty terms and as it sees the sive alliance.

Horizontal escalation, in penn theatre would be do other side, just as it was in the Berlin Wall was built in the Warsaw Pact armies in choslovakia and in 1981 was imposed in Poland.

On all these occasions the was the one to set up a backdrop by massing troops large-scale manoeuvres, exercises and air force shows.

So Central Europe could less suitable as a theatre for escalation of whatever kind. sis strikes it is the other the scene in military terms.

The new Bonn government some of the credit for having this point on the American Pentagon view could no upheld.

Washington has no choice locate again the Central global strategic planning always held by virtue of its potential and understanding it must play.

It is that of an extremely region exposed to strong opes in which any idea of bilito hear oneself must be.

What is more, in the event Central Europe needs more tion, not less, including the marked for the purpose.

It now looks as though perts in Washington are re the tables but shoulder bags made of some hesitation, to this clas of the situation.

Fritz Ullrich (Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung) for Deutschland

OAU is currently subjected allowed to override the fact first two decades the orga proved useful in many other crises.

It successfully mediated between Morocco and Algeria Ethiopia and Somalia. The OAU that were stationed in Chad at least eased the situation though they may have been resolve it.

The OAU arguably deserves credit for having steadfastly bids to transfer the East-West to Africa (even though it may have succeeded).

Hans-Georg (Westdeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung)

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HOME AFFAIRS

Greens face big decisions, aside from the crucial issue of football

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

Sometimes politics takes a back seat to sport. That is what happened at a meeting of the Greens in Han-

over executive committee delegates and quickly away to get close to the on the last Saturday of the season whether Hamburg SV or Werder Bremen would win the soccer Bundesliga.

Hamburg SV won in a photo finish. (Stuttgarter Zeitung, 10 June 1983)

fact so many left that, after a hour discussion, a woman delegate Marion Maren-Grisbach pointed out that only women were left. The men all vanished.

At the behaviour of their hoarded grades, also got a telling-off. In the face of screaming children, "for those who should be looking after their children to actually do so?" the meeting of the Greens is difficult to other parties. As different as

ables to concrete," as Rudolf

there are no banners, no zealous plant with two flowers will do. There are no stacks of executive cassettes but shoulder bags made of

and under the chair pilos of

the Greens, who at the general election in March managed to get more than 5 per cent of the electoral vote and to get into Parliament, had plenty to discuss in Hanover.

Ever since their magnificent election performance the Greens have not really been able to sort things out among themselves.

On the one hand, as one delegate put it, they wish to remain the "party of the future" and not turn into a mere "parliamentary party."

On the other hand, they have to come to terms with problems of parliamentary (parliamentary) structural and rotational (rotational) difficulties.

The Greens have a rotational principle of representation in the Bundestag (parliamentary) and in the state parliaments.

These "formal" difficulties were left of the discussion in Hanover so that the fundamental issues could be dealt with.

The Greens have to make up their mind whether to stick to their present

expressed understanding for the morally justified Soviet desire for unity.

That ought to help him on his forthcoming visit to Moscow when he relieves his equally justified criticism of the Soviet arms build-up, warning the United Nations to make no mistakes.

But NATO's capacity to act in unison is in question. The Greens would be well advised to make the Chancellor's authorization to make his plea for a compromise.

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 10 June 1983)



Seeking the right shade of Green... Thomas Ebermann (left) and Rainer Trampert at the special conference of the Greens.

course, which appeals to the voters left of centre, or whether they should take up Bahro's suggestion and try to gain support within the conservative electorate, that is, right of centre.

It was clear right from the start of this meeting that this problem would not be decided on in Hanover and certainly cannot be eliminated by putting it to the vote. But there was an obvious need for discussion on the issue.

Two contrasting approaches to this issue were presented at the start of the convention: on the one hand, Rudolf Bahro, once a dissident in the GDR; on the other, Rainer Trampert, who bluntly and candidly great applause underlined that he is not willing to go along with Bahro's "adventurous strategy" of reaching the party to gain support from conservative circles.

The party must do more than just



Puzzling away... Rudolf Bahro.

If former GDR dissident Rudolf Bahro was really hoping for some kind of specific commitment during the Green's congress, he went about it the wrong way.

His exhortation that the Greens should not just concentrate on the support of society's fringe groups and outsiders but should show more interest in the large, conservative-minded majority in Germany, does seem a bit naive.

It was the head of the CSU, Franz

Bahro shows conference that he's too much the theorist

Jesef Strauss, who stated that the Greens ought not to be wasting their time in parliaments.

Almost every sentence in Bahro's theses show that he is an out-and-out theoretician, who has spent too much time at his desk, puzzling away at his favourite ideas of a post-industrial society.

Logically consistent, he recommends that the Greens assume the "bankruptcy of production oriented society" and abandon all hopes of co-operation with the "Big Labour Organisations" (SPD and the unions).

In doing so, he overlooks the fact that many of those who voted for the Greens, but also those for whom the label "left-wing" is still not a "nasty word," are hoping for precisely that kind of co-operation to prevent any reactionary political trends.

What Bahro means exactly when he talks of moving towards the conservative majority in the population is his own personal secret.

Does he expect the Greens to accept a bit of tightening-up of the demonstra-

complain about injustices and offer a concrete alternative.

He called upon those in Hanover to dispute Helmut Kohl's right to refer to Hilderlin.

As Bahro already once wrote in a thesis paper, "The Germans always only had semi-revolutions, but we were once a reforming nation."

"The new social movements, which have now carried the Greens into Parliament, are the harbinger of new radical reforms."

Rainer Trampert, the man from the north of Germany, who like Bahro is a member of the party's national executive committee, spoke of his fears of changing the face of the party just to appeal to conservative voters.

He too wants political success, but the price of such success must be decided on beforehand.

He rejected merely conforming to the existing general consciousness and glossing-over of everyday life.

Trampert warned Bahro against being taken in by the conservative promise of the warmth of the "national community". In times of crisis, the Volksgemeinschaft ideology of the National Socialists is all too readily presented to the people.

Quotes by Helmut Kohl and Adolf Hitler were mentioned side by side. Some of the audience at the book of the hall found it difficult to understand what was going on up front.

One man kept on stroking his dog, another read a leaflet he was handed before he came in.

In-between lists of signatures for Polish prisoners, persons detained who belong to the GDR peace movement, and the Eco-movement in France, almost everything ever published on the Greens by traditional and alternative publishers is on sale.

Gardening Without Using Poisonous Substances is there among posters, post-cards, magazines and the Gorbelen Report.

A large book entitled Save The Whales competes with Save The Frogs — both indisputably important tasks for mankind.

Hans-Peter Sattler (Stuttgarter Zeitung, 6 June 1983)

tion law, a bit of the tough line against foreigners and inconvenient groups notwithstanding?

Apart from the fact that the CDU-CSU and the FDP have no real reason to support such *Annäherung* on the part of the Greens, such a move would cost the party some of its most active supporters.

In the medium-term, the most important characteristic of an alternative party should not be to seek salvation, particularly in times of crisis, by shifting into socio-political reverse gear.

Admittedly, the Greens cannot indefinitely avoid fundamental structural decisions on the party's future.

The immediate future will decide whether the existing rational principle for the Green Bundestag members or the often chaotic relationship between the party's grass roots and the party leadership are ideal.

This entails argument within the party itself.

(Nürnberger Nachrichten, 6 June 1983)

Amenity cutbacks drawn up as local authority budgets feel the pinch

Germany's municipalities are going to have to cut down their spending even further over the next few years. People will have to sacrifice some of the comforts they are now taking for granted.

A quick dip in the local swimming baths before going to work, for example. In future, most of them will open at 9 a.m. instead of 7 a.m.

Adult education courses will become more expensive and, suddenly, the local libraries are asking readers to pay money to borrow books.

The list of austerity measures is a long one. The German Municipal Authorities' Assembly listed 92 individual items after consulting its members.

The item at the top of the list should make the pay experts in the German Transport and Public Workers' Union (ÖTV), who are currently bargaining over a new pay deal, prick up their ears: personnel cuts.

Of the 80 local authorities covered by the survey, 57 stated that they would not, at least for the time being, be filling the jobs which become vacant, and 45 municipalities will be getting rid of jobs on a mere permanent basis.

Sports clubs will be receiving less financial assistance in the way of subsidies in 50 per cent of the towns/cities covered. Every second municipality will be cutting back on road maintenance.

This is more than just a will to save, as shown by the city of Duisburg: in the field of public swimming baths alone, Duisburg will save DM8m by lowering the temperature of the water, limiting the opening hours and thus reducing staff needed.

No fixed rules

There are no fixed stipulations on the extent to which a sports club has to be financially supported or on how many new books the municipal library has to buy each year.

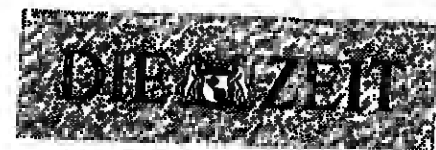
Subsidies for school outings end at 15 in *Schulandheimen* (country houses used by school classes for short visits) are also voluntary payments. Over half of the municipalities surveyed are planning cuts here.

Pretty soon though all this is not going to be enough. The chairman of the North Rhine-Westphalia Municipal Authorities' Assembly, the town clerk of Neuss, Franz-Josef Schmitt, cannot rule out that people may even lose out on services and benefits to which they are legally entitled. There's just no more money.

As an example, Schmitt refers to travelling expenses for school children, which in North Rhine-Westphalia are paid for by the *Land* (individual federal state) if the children do not live near the school.

This generous gesture was decided on by the *Landtag* (state parliament) in Düsseldorf. In reality, however, the municipalities themselves have to pay for it.

Although the *Land* provided a subsidy linked to the size of the population to cover the services to be rendered by the municipalities within the context of the *Auftragsverwaltung* (administration



of public contracts), this money has now been "dropped altogether".

This subsidy only covered 45 per cent of the costs beforehand anyway. Admittedly, the municipalities are aware of the fact that the *Land* is planning to increase its investment subsidy. However, they are not willing to accept this as compensation, as this money cannot be used to "cover current spending". The latter field presents the biggest headache for the municipalities.

"If we don't get any help", says the town clerk of Duisburg, Herbert Krämer, "the whole system will collapse".

A list compiled by the Municipal Authorities' Assembly shows how hard the municipalities have been hit by the termination of subsidies.

Cologne, the city with the biggest population in North Rhine-Westphalia, received DM52m last year.

The same capital Düsseldorf, was allotted DM31.5m, and the crisis-ridden mining town of Dortmund got DM32.5m.

All independent and dependent administrative districts together received a total of DM450m last year. The absence of this sum of money has left a big gap.

For although the *Land* no longer provides the financial support, it still expects the municipalities to provide the expensive services which they are obliged to do by law.

The missing subsidisation figures virtually coincide with the deficits in those 25 municipalities unable to balance their budgets in 1983: DM501m.

Duisburg tops the list with DM76m, but is outstripped on a per capita basis by Oberhausen and Hagen.

The deficits, therefore, have increased almost threefold within one year. In 1982, only 18 municipalities were in the red with a total deficit of DM172m.

Schmitt, town clerk of Neuss, thus talks of "self-defence" when municipalities consider cutting back expenditure in areas in which they are obliged to pay by law.

"As soon as we reach the stage where borrowing can no longer be justified, we must — law or no law — decide whether things can go on like this".

Schmitt says that the municipalities are being gradually drained.

He suspects that not only the economy is being put to the test but the municipalities as well.

However, austerity measures by the municipalities often lead to problems elsewhere. The cutting of special season-tickets for school children for example may induce the pupils to jump on their bikes instead of walk to school.

This means a loss of revenue for the municipal transport services, which in their turn will require additional subsidies.

First of all, however, the municipalities will be trying to get their money by going to court. If this doesn't help, there'll be no option but to declare a state of financial emergency and refuse to render the services to which they are legally bound.

Düsseldorf will probably be stalling a

test case against the *Land* of North Rhine-Westphalia.

Until 1984, however, the city elders are not likely to do anything which could further upset the population. District council elections are to be held next year.

The *Land* government in Düsseldorf is sticking to its tough line. This will mean growing deficits.

Interior Minister (of North Rhine-Westphalia), Herbert Schnoor, announced last week: "Our *Land* has used all possibilities of obtaining additional loans. It is not in a position to help the municipalities."

SPD Minister Schnoor took the opportunity to pass the buck. He blamed the whole situation on the CDU/CSU-FDP government in Bonn, which in his opinion had taken the strain off the federal budget at the expense of the municipalities.

The cutback in unemployment money, for example, will lead to a greater number of persons receiving national assistance, which will lead to a further burden on the municipalities.

The municipal elders agree on this point. Bruno Weinberger, executive member of the Municipal Authorities' Assembly Committee, reckons that "Operation 1982", which was geared to relieving the federal budget, has led to an extra DM800m in welfare aid spending for the municipalities.

But there are also critical words for North Rhine-Westphalia. Although this *Land* complains about the financial situation fueling the municipalities, it also played a part in developing the legislation in Bonn which has reduced the municipalities to beggary.

Such criticism is not only levelled against the majority decisions. The state government in Düsseldorf, for example, although initially opposing the removal of selective employment tax, finally agreed to this move.

Since 1980, therefore, this source of income has dried up and the municipalities have not recovered from this blow to this very day.

Hanna Kerrenberg and Engelbert Münstermann, both expert advisers to the German Municipal Authorities' Assembly, term the removal of the selective employment tax as one of the most "serious interventions" in trade tax.

But it wasn't the only one. In a study on the Municipal Finances Report of 1983, the two experts list a few more blows to the financial strength of the municipalities:

- The raising of the tax allowances for trading profits in the years 1975, 1978 and 1980 to DM36,000.
- The raising of the tax allowance for trading capital in the years 1978 and 1981 to DM120,000, and
- The introduction of a tax allowance to the effect of DM50,000 for the adding-on of long-term debts to the trading capital tax since 1981.

Bruno Weinberger complains: "Between 1970 and 1981, welfare aid spending had to be increased almost 4% times. The main source of income for the municipalities, the trade tax, on the other hand, was substantially decreased via legislation, five times between 1975 and 1983 alone."

His conclusion: "In line with the motto, might is right, the municipalities

are being asked to help the *Land* which are guilty of doing this."

The decisions taken in Bonn encourage the small and medium firms and boost investments in a drastic reduction in the firms liable to pay trade tax, less than one third of all firms.

In Duisburg, the figure is a quarter, all the rest are covered by tax allowance provisions.

Town clerk Herbert Krämer says the trade tax is a "tax of luxury". This development means that the primary sources of income for municipalities are becoming more and more dependent on subsidies from the government or the *Land*.

At some time in the future, he expects in the form of value added tax. "But we know that will not and that's not going to help," Krämer points out. He therefore for reintroduction of the selective employment tax. "This could be tomorrow", he says.

The head of administration in Duisburg tones this statement down, remarking that such a move is unlikely to be accepted by the *Land* and Labour Minister Norbert

THE WORKFORCE

Pension reform needed, and it will be a difficult, unpopular task

but the fact is that basing pensions on the earnings before tax of the working population has grown too expensive.

Disregarding taxation and contributions is not fair either. Working people, who foot the pensions bill, are being asked to pay more and more in contributions.

Pension reform is a tough but indispensable task for the Bonn government in general and the Labour Minister in particular.

The tug-of-war over pension increases gives little idea of the complexity of the problem. Whatever Herr Blum decides on is going to be unpopular.

So Herr Stoltenberg's support for postponing pension rises is intended first and foremost as pressure to get Herr Blum to make savings and reform proposals.

The first consideration is next year, for which not enough cash will always be coming in as matters stand to honour all pension commitments.

If need be the Finance Minister might have to meet the difference from budget funds.

But equally heavy pressure weighs on Herr Blum to submit proposals soon for a long-term reform of the pension scheme.

Pensions must definitely increase more slowly than they have done in the past. Claims that are not based on personal contributions must be cut back.

Trade unionists demonstrate against unemployment

To fight mass unemployment the Common Market summit would need to renounce once and for all protectionism in all its guises and failed subsidies to industries like steel.

The trade union demands for government investment programmes overreach the mark, of course. The European Community is already on the verge of bankruptcy, and would not deficit financing send interest rates soaring again?

That could hardly fail to have an adverse effect on private investment, hitting jobs below the belt again.

Politicians would do well to heed the demands for shorter working hours in one form or another, especially as the unions no longer insist on full wages.

Even if the recovery maintains momentum there seems to be no way in which the EEC will be able to avoid redistributing the amount of work available to ensure full employment.

The PGB's decision no longer to insist on less work for the same pay ought surely to make it easier to arrive at a solution.

The employers can no longer afford to disregard the prospect of readiness to compromise held forth by Herr Breil.

(Allgemeine Zeitung Mainz, 6 June 1983)

Civil service pensioners, on the other hand, already pay tax on their pensions. The pension reform must do justice

to the Constitutional Court requirement of comparable treatment for all kinds of provision for old age.

It must also ensure that mere funds are raised, which can only be achieved if the Federal and state governments agree to remit much of the extra revenue to the pension funds.

If they refused, the only option would be to change the basis on which pension entitlement is assessed.

It would need to bear in mind that pensions must increase at a slower rate in the years ahead and take into account both the number of contributors and the economic situation.

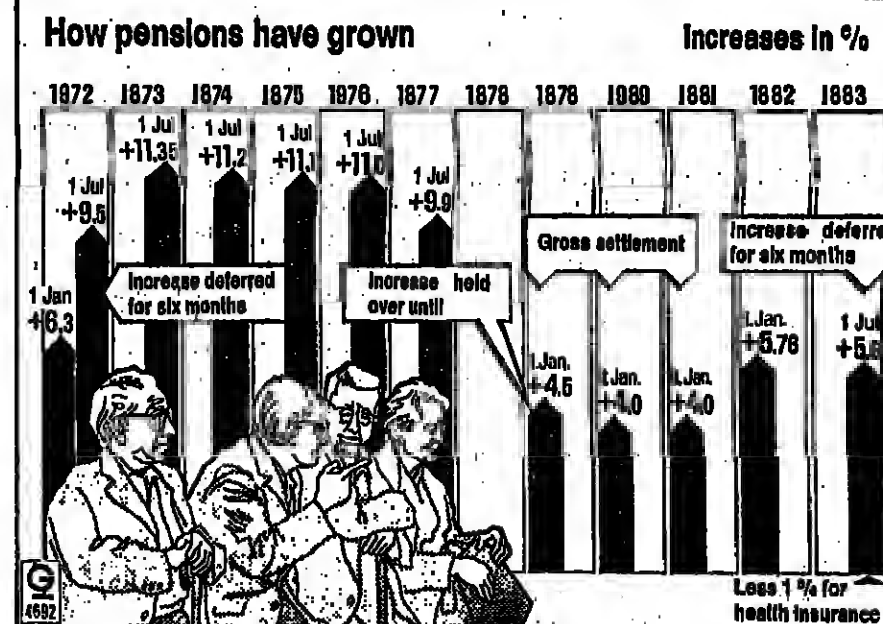
Slower Increase

But only people who are paid a state pension would be required to shoulder the pension reform burden, so unless suitable provisions were made low pensions would be hit hardest.

If the reform was satisfactory the lengthy tug-of-war would have been worthwhile, and when a decision is taken it must be stood by in good times and bad.

1984 must be the end of the pensions debate for many a long year.

Wolfgang Mauersberg
(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 7 June 1983)



The monthly unemployment figures are still bad news. In the past, especially when the economy was booming, unemployment used to resedive dramatically in spring. Not any longer.

The improvement is negligible these days, and it is purely seasonal. The labour market is a permanent problem, with 2.2 million people out of work.

To make the problem doubly difficult there is no prospect of swift solutions. There are no ideas that hold forth the promise of a swift improvement either.

Unemployment is not just cyclical this time round; it is to a large extent structural.

Demographic problems complicate matters. Estimates of an extra half a million prospective breadwinners in the second-half of the decade are on the conservative side.

They and the bedrock of today's unemployed seem sure to keep the number at three million or so for years. In other words, unemployment will grow increasingly pressing as a problem.

There are no sure cures. Patience is

No more joy in the spring jobless figures

called for. Hopes of economic recovery serving the problem automatically, as it were, must not be overestimated.

An upswing, and it has been only tentative so far, will not be enough on its own. Entire industries are being swept by the winds of change and need to shed capacity.

Structural change takes time and money. Cash is a scarce commodity and, with the coffers bare, would merely boost inflation.

We run other risks too: old, new and redundancy black spots. Exports are shrinking and threatened by protectionism, and despite the Williamsburg summit interest rates seem to be on the increase worldwide.

(Der Tagesspiegel, 4 June 1983)

■ BUSINESS

Saudis intent on promoting domestic industry

The Federal Republic of Germany is Saudi Arabia's second most important partner in economic and industrial/scientific co-operation, said the Saudi Arabia Minister of Finance, Sheikh Mohammad Abulhail, at the 6th Conference of the German-Saudi Arabian Economics Commission in Riyadh.

German Minister for Economic Affairs, Count Otto Lambsdorff, headed the German delegation. He also met King Fahd for detailed talks during his visit.

Saudi Arabia is on the threshold of a new phase in its up to now breathtaking economic development.

The reduction in the revenue from oil exports means greater economizing. This will not, however, adversely affect the development targets set.

The emphasis will be shifted away from new large-scale projects towards extending those already in existence, promoting domestic industry and encouraging domestic management.

These objectives form the basis for prospects of future co-operation between Saudi Arabia and the Federal Republic.

The expected budgetary deficit of about \$9bn (30 billion Riel) is certainly not likely to break the Saudi Arabia bank. Saudi Arabia has vast monetary reserves both at home and abroad.

Abulhail stressed that there is a basic willingness to grant new loans to Bonn, but up to now the Saudi Arabia government has not been asked. Probably it won't be the financial year.

In Abulhail's opinion, the current price of oil is stable and reasonable. He is sure things will stay that way, although there is less certainty as to whether production and demand will rise

during the third quarter of this year.

The expansion of the domestic economy will improve the capacity to absorb the financial back-flow from the oil revenue, the Minister said. Saudi Arabia would then invest less abroad.

The huge investments abroad were necessary because the domestic economy could absorb that kind of capital.

Over the past six years, loans worth 123 billion Riel have flowed into industry, agriculture and trade. This is growing constantly.

The Saudi government intends plugging the \$9bn deficit via disinvestment abroad and by "stretching" state-run projects.

Abulhail referred to the deficit figure as a trifle which would not have any effect on international financial markets.

Experts estimate Saudi Arabia's total monetary reserves and investments abroad at the least \$150bn. The Minister himself, however, would not say.

During his talks with King Fahd and the Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister, Saud al-Faisal, Count Lambsdorff made it clear that Bonn's foreign policies towards the Middle East and towards the Arabs have not been changed by the change of government in Bonn.

This statement seemed to be important in reassuring the Saudis. After all, during his first policy speech in October 1982 Chancellor Kohl did not mention the Middle East at all.

The talks did not uncover anything new. They confirmed the great caution shown by Saudi Arabia, which stands as it were above things, expressing its understanding and sympathies for both the Lebanese and for the Syrians.

The King only briefly touched on foreign policy, and with great restraint.



King Fahd (left) and Count Lambsdorff during their talks in the Saudi capital of Riyadh.

He concentrated on economic policy and the development of his country, particularly education. He is a former education minister.

German-Saudi Arabian economic relations are in good shape and German firms represented in Saudi Arabia have no major complaints.

The problems caused by differences in legal systems are few.

There are some difficulties over demands that the Saudi Arabians be given a 30 per cent share of any deal done with a foreign company.

This can be traced back to an old law adopted in 1974, which the Saudi Arabian government was pressuring to accept by merchants, whose business is dropping off.

However, the stipulation allows for varied interpretations and German businessmen are not unduly concerned about the possibility of stiff application.

Following a buoyant period in economic ties between both countries it now looks as if trade will stay at its present level or even fall off.

Competition, however, is becoming tougher all the time. In 1982, Saudi Arabia was Germany's number one oil supplier. During the first quarter of

1983 it has been overtaken by Libya.

The emphasis placed by Saudi Arabia on the extension of high-tech industry during the new phase present new market opportunities for the Federal Republic of Germany.

Admittedly, there is plenty of competition in this field from other countries, but all from the Americas.

Germany is to take over the management of three hospitals and a firm will be responsible for modern training centre in the Jubail on the Persian Gulf.

The much-discussed purchase of 600 Leopard tanks by the Saudis not discussed during Lambsdorff's visit. Nevertheless, a number of suggestions that this desire is

Perhaps the Saudis will issue during Chancellor Kohl's visit in Saudi Arabia during his trip to the Middle East.

Lambsdorff handed over a letter from Kohl. There is no comment on the visit, although it is unclear whether it will be his last.

Frankfurt Allgemeine Zeitung

INDUSTRY

Small tradesmen keep hammering away to prove a commercial, ideological point

Skilled trades are not dying out as many once predicted. It is true that some skills are lost and that others have been changed by the demands of a modern, technological society. But others that were thought to be living in numbered days have begun to agitate; tiled stove building, cabinet making, blacksmithing. What is happening in ideological point is being proved. Jürgen Jaske reports here in the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* that human versatility and adaptability is the main reason why the small tradesmen keep hammering away to prove a commercial, ideological point.

There is a certain symbolism in the fact that this year's German Trades Congress was held in Frankfurt's Old House.

Frankfurt's Opera House, which was built amid the plain coldness of high-rise architecture, combines modern engineering and skillful, artistic restoration. It is a symbol of the middle-class of life.

The skilled trades, with their combination of technological progress and traditional skills, also reflect the more human side of industry. They contrast with the impersonal nature of large enterprises.

Although many social structures are breaking up, the skilled trades still keep in a tight network; a working unit in which the individual can still understand the undivided work process, individual's dexterity and his pride in his work.

There is still a chance of independent self-fulfilment.

Even technology, which is a robot nightmare to many, stays "human" here, the skilled tradesmen still masters the machine and not the other way round.

As the Swabian doctor Paracelsus is claimed to have written: "All crafts are united in Man".

Today there are 125 skilled trades. Human versatility and adaptability are the main reasons why the trades have maintained their vitality throughout the centuries.

This was something Marx and Engels failed to realise when they prophesied the following in their Communist Manifesto published in 1848:

"The lower strata of the middle class — the small tradespeople, shopkeepers, and retired tradesmen generally, the handicraftsmen and peasants — all these sink gradually into the proletariat, partly because their diminutive capital

does not suffice for the scale on which modern industry is carried on, and is swamped in the competition with the large capitalists, partly because their specialised skill is rendered worthless by new methods of production."

Although Marx and Engels talked of human beings, they saw the economy as a kind of natural force which had no place for man's inventiveness.

They would never have thought it possible that the triumphal march of mass production, which was linked to the spreading of mass prosperity, would be able to create new needs which could be catered for by the skilled trades.

During recent years, many trades which were pronounced obsolete have therefore come to new life: tiled-stove builders, cabinetmakers and even the blacksmiths (because of the sport of horse-riding).

And nobody was able to visualise the amount of repair-work and restoration needed in modern society.

Admittedly, whole branches of skilled trades, for example the tailor, have been displaced by industry, or they have at least lost the basis for their independent economic existence.

On the other hand, new trades have emerged or have made their presence felt to an extent no-one would have thought possible: dental technicians, hearing-aid acoustics experts, building cleaners or ventilation constructors.

Although, as Marx and Engels predicted, many skills have been "rendered worthless" by the technological revolution, particularly in electrical engineering, many new fields of work have been created.

Skilled trades also benefit from technological progress in other ways. For example, many small businesses are now able to afford computers.

So the development of the skilled trades has not been determined by the laws of the economy (as Marx and Engels said) but by man's own ingenuity.

The skilled trades have become an important stabilising socio-political factor in Germany.

In many senses, this sector is the "school of the nation" for the recruitment of two thirds of all industrial trainees and future managers.

Jürgen Jaske
(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 7 June 1983)

Crafts and trades

Businesses payroll (figures in %)

One-man firms

between 2 and 4

5-9

10-19

20-49

More than 50



The side-by-side of master and apprentice means that job satisfaction and a peaceful working atmosphere is better than in other areas.

Already back in 1897, the economist Gustav von Schmoller (1838-1917) pointed out that the middle class unites the forces and tendencies which ensure that "a great nation does not disintegrate into a few who are extremely rich and countless proletarians".

In addition, the existence of a large number of small and medium-scale businesses guarantees a market economy system as it exists in the Federal Republic of Germany.

The skilled trades, therefore, have a feeling for all tendencies which might threaten this economic freedom.

This varied nature of the skilled trades also makes sure that Germany's provinces remain living areas.

When one considers that the way out of the economic difficulties facing us during the eighties can only be achieved via greater individual responsibility, initiative and the willingness to take risks, skilled trades could become a symbol of the times.

The information-theory expert, Professor Karl Steinbuch, once wrote: "Middle-class awareness must, above all, live up to the destruction of independence in the economic and intellectual spheres."

"Independence is the best guarantee against unknown dangers and a prerequisite for future creativity."

In this respect, the skilled trades could become very important for the further development of our society.

The skilled trades must become the advocate of the human side of industry.

Jürgen Jaske
(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 7 June 1983)

Iran poised for an economic upswing, says chamber



German business ties with Iran have always been strong.

However, most businessmen still show restraint in their acquisition policies, even though the Tehran government has just published a new five-year plan with a long list of both major projects and measures to promote the country's small and medium-scale industries.

Spokeswoman for the Chamber of Commerce, Anje Moradian, expects an increase in travel to and from Iran by German businessmen in the near future.

The number of German firms in Iran dropped from 270 before the revolution to 110 in May 1980 and 80 this year. Many of them have Iranian staff only.

"What we're all really waiting for is the end of the war," says Ernest A. Volckmar, manager of the Aachen-based air and heating technology firm, H. Krantz.

This would be the starting signal for

per for increasing involvement by German firms in the Persian Gulf.

Many former projects are in the war-zone. Hardly anything is known about their present state.

The outcome of the war is also important in deciding which political group takes over the leadership of the state and the economy inside and outside the Tehran parliament.

The announced and known industrial projects provide an idea of Iran's need to catch up economically four years after the start of the revolution.

Ports are to be extended; airports to be built in provincial areas; 12 power stations to be set up with a power load of 10,000 megawatts; and a pumped-storage hydrostation with a capacity of four times 250 megawatts, is to be built in Tehran.

The Iranian railway network is to be completely electrified now that the connection between the Soviet border and the provincial capital, Tehran, has been linked up.

A new international airport is to be built in Tehran itself and a major oil refinery in the province of Haman.

Work on the gas pipeline into Turkey

is making no progress at the moment mainly because of the war.

The surprising thing about Iran is the number of large-scale projects reminiscent of the economic policy days of the Shah.

However, the war led to a halt for many projects and only those planned are really new.

German exports to Iran last year were valued at 1.2 billion DM.

The Düsseldorf company Hochtief, which completed a chemical production plant near Tehran just before the start of the revolution, reports business during the first quarter as "decidedly improved".

Those German firms with particularly close business ties to Iran are showing "positive signs", although the prospects are seen to be medium-term.

At the end of May, the DIHT warned German firms not to get on board when the boom takes off in Iran.

Potential competitors such as North Korea, Italy and Sweden are ready for the off.

According to forecasts by German economic experts, Iran will have a billion marks more each year to spend on imports when the war is over, which is a currently impossible situation.

Despite revolution and war, the Germans have shown a great sense of

Continued on page 7

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Antworten auf diese Fragen gibt Ihnen DIE WELT, Deutschlands größte, liberale Tages- und Wochenzeitung.

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In Genf spielt Moskau auf Zeitgewinn, USA enttäuscht

Die WELT

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Die WELT

Iran ready for economic jump

Continued from page 6

duty with regard to paying up their debts.

Apart from a few individual businessmen who fled after the revolution broke out there have been no cases of refusal to repay loans.

Scare stories of nationalising foreign firms have revealed themselves to be completely unfounded: in the case of German companies.

Both German and other foreign firms are optimistic about the possibility of completing contracts they once started.

There is still a great need for housing for the 40 million Iranians, four million of whom are claimed to be unemployed (30 per cent of the gainfully employable persons).

The goods on the Tehran government's list of imports show that the blind faith shown by the Shah regime in large-scale projects is gone: machines, pharmaceuticals, chemicals, fertiliser, the motor industry and spare parts.

One of the biggest barriers to the further development of the Iranian economy is the lack of skilled workers.

Not only are the experts gone, who have left the country over the past four years, but four years of trainees are missing. Training charges are essential.

This is the only way to enable domestic capacities to be extended and to overcome the great economic dependence which has faced Iran during the past.

Dieter Löwe
(Deutsche Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung, 5 June 1983)

PERSPECTIVE

Geneva and afterwards:
the crucial factors

The Federal Republic of Germany is heading for one of the most serious domestic and foreign policy crises in its history.

In all probability the crisis will come to a head in six months' time, but people are already far from clear as to the implications of what is at stake.

The signs are that confusion will be even greater at the height of the crisis than it is now.

In their public statements the politicians are still hoping the Geneva talks on medium-range missiles in Europe will achieve results, an interim agreement at least, in time for the year's end deadline.

In reality they have virtually abandoned hope of a breakthrough over the past few months. The signs are that the talks will fail to achieve results, interim or otherwise, in 1983.

In keeping with the timetable agreed by NATO it will then be time to start stationing the new US missiles in Europe, beginning with Pershing 2s in Germany.

The peace movement, in the widest sense of the term, has announced its intention of preventing the installation of the new missiles.

The present Bonn government has repeatedly proclaimed its determination to go ahead with the NATO missile modernisation programme regardless of such resistance.

It hopes the resistance spokesmen for the peace movement have said will be offered will remain non-violent. But no one can be sure that it will.

What next to no-one realises any longer is how paradoxical the situation is likely to be at the year's end.

The Geneva talks may be expected to break down, either because the Americans declare them to have been a failure or because the Russians recall their delegation the moment the first Pershing 2s arrive in Germany.

The peace movement's resistance to their being stationed will then be based on the slogan: "No new US missiles in Europe!"

If this campaign is a success, NATO will indeed not be supplied with new missiles for Europe, while the Soviet Union can cheerfully shelve plans for a partial withdrawal of SS-20 missiles.

Washington is increasingly coming to feel that the Soviet leaders will not be prepared to negotiate seriously until they realise that implementation of the NATO decision can no longer be prevented.

Anyone who holds this view must logically welcome the arrival of the first Pershing 2s in Germany and be prepared to crush resistance to stationing them here come what may.

If it is right the new missiles must be stationed in Europe if there is to be any chance of a reduction in the number of new missile systems by both sides.

Politicians who hold this view are at a disadvantage in that they cannot prove their point. In all probability the

Soviet Union will do all it can to create the opposite impression.

Moscow can be sure to announce, in no uncertain terms, that the stationing of the first Pershings will end any hopes of reaching agreement.

The Soviet Union will then no longer be prepared to talk about a limitation in the number of missile systems.

Politicians might then argue that the Kremlin advanced exactly the same argument just before NATO arrived at its missile modernisation decision in December 1979.

Yet once the decision had been taken the Russians were soon ready to hold negotiations again.

Root-and-branch opponents of missile modernisation are unlikely to be convinced by this argument.

Opposition to the new US missiles has reached a stage at which it is so widespread and so determined that objective discussion between the two sides is virtually ruled out.

The Social Democrats have shown steadily less enthusiasm about the missile modernisation decision of late, especially since being relegated to the Opposition benches in Bonn.

Yet their own Bonn Chancellor, Helmut Schmidt, was partly responsible for drafting the 1979 NATO resolution.

But as it may, it is virtually inconceivable that an SPD party conference might possibly endorse missile modernisation in any form as matters stand.

Even Herr Schmidt has paved the way for rejection of the idea by urging the government of no longer seriously aiming at results in Geneva.

Group seeks a merger of the
two sets of missile talks

Protestant laymen led by Munich political scientist and historian Professor Klaus von Sebhart have called for the Geneva talks on intercontinental (START) and medium-range (INF) missiles to be merged. The aim is to reach a comprehensive agreement on nuclear disarmament. This, in turn, is Article 8 of what the group call the Heidelberg peace memorandum, a name that calls to mind the Heidelberg theses drafted by Professor Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker in 1959.

The latest round in the arms race is a threat to Europe in particular. The Geneva talks on medium-range missiles will show whether confidence in arms control negotiations is forfeited entirely or a breakthrough is achieved.

Many nuclear devices are stored in Europe for use in central Europe as the potential theatre of an East-West war. Many medium-range Eurostrategic systems are stationed in and around Europe.

They all clearly demonstrate both the trend in nuclear technology toward combat capability and the consequences of inadequate arms limitation agree-

ments that leave leeway for "grey zones" and can thus be circumvented. At the Geneva talks only a limited cross-section of Eurostrategic weapons is under discussion.

If the United States and the Soviet Union are unable to agree to forgo these weapon systems there will still be the Selt option of agreement on ceilings.

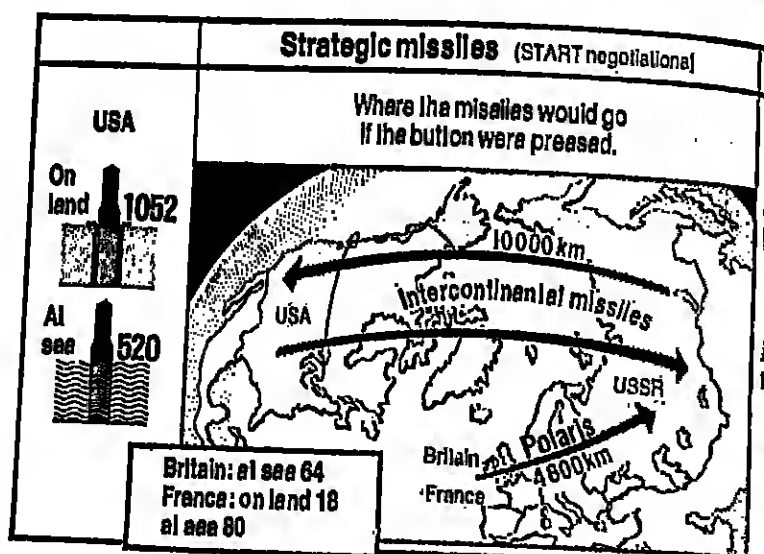
This would enable the two sides to carry on with their arms build-up or go ahead with missile modernisation.

There is also the possibility of a minor reduction, no more than symbolic in character. Neither possibility is an acceptable solution.

Yet if the negotiation brief was extended to include all comparable Eurostrategic systems and shorter-range tactical nuclear weapons, agreement might be reached on comprehensive nuclear disarmament.

As a first step the United States and the Soviet Union as the two sides at Geneva could call a halt to the arms race and decide to extend the talks to all regional strategic and theatre tactical nuclear weapons.

As a second step they can then agree to scrap these categories of weapons en-



The only point that is still at issue in the SPD is whether the party, and leading Social Democrats, ought to take an active part in opposing the stationing of the missiles as some groups demand.

Party leaders have so far stalled on this point, but they might yet be swept along on the crest of a wave of opposition to missile modernisation.

The situation is much the same in the trade union movement.

There, as in the SPD leadership, the leaders are still level-headed enough to oppose the demand by Oskar Lafontaine, the SPD mayor of Saarbrücken, for a general strike in protest against the missiles.

The domestic crisis that seems to lie ahead could prove so ominous as to prompt consideration whether there might not be some way of avoiding it.

The first idea in this direction was the moratorium proposal, which envisaged continuing the Geneva talks in the New Year if need be and postponing missile modernisation while they continued.

But the Soviet government would probably infer that the West was no longer so sure it could afford to go ahead with missile modernisation.

Moscow might then lose interest in coming to terms.

inter and link the regional intercontinental (START) strategic talks.

By linking the two so as to any gaps they could negotiate a comprehensive agreement to reduce weapons.

It would not allow any "grey zones" to arise and could thus be circumvented. At the same time a European control network of agreements on conventional arms, manpower and movement options needs setting up to prevent war becoming inevitable or a fresh arms dynamic occurring.

An MBFR agreement in Vienna long overdue. A Conference on management in Europe ought to be continuing negotiations on military confidence-building.

In this way the remaining nuclear weapons held by the powers would become deterrants again.

That might not eliminate the present dilemma, but it would provide specific access to the elimination of nuclear weapons called Article Five.

The agenda in Geneva could be extended that a comprehensive ban on nuclear weapons would be conceivable along with flights, have been first to sense the need of change.

There has been, particularly kept promoting inter-regional European traffic and flights between smaller

TRAVEL

Shock for holidaymakers as another
Berlin company goes to the wall

THE COLLAPSE OF FLUG-UNION, the well-known Berlin travel company, came back to the trade. It is only a year later that a travel bureau subsidiary, a German office was in Berlin, even more spectacularly to the

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collapse of Flug-Union, the well-known Berlin travel company, came back to the trade. It is only a year later that a travel bureau subsidiary, a German office was in Berlin, even more spectacularly to the

Flug Ring and Flug-Union ran into difficulties for the first time. It was partly their own fault for having made no attempt to meet the Laker challenge.

Laker's success was short-lived. The company went out of business in February 1982. Not even Sir Freddie Laker could make ends meet by charging less than cost.

Berlin air tour operators breathed a sigh of relief, but not the affected holidaymakers.

Worried by Laker's failure, many holidaymakers decided to play safe and book with TUI, the largest and arguably safest operator.

TUI steadily improved its position, offering cut-price tours from Berlin only. Gumbert's local firms, operating only from Berlin, were unable to compete.

Their only strong point was that they ran air tours to less popular destinations. On popular routes they were increasingly unable to hold their own.

Competition grew even more ruinous early this year when NUR and TUI waged a price war of their own even though NUR, for instance, lost DM11m

last year. It was a loss that would have meant the end for any smaller operator, and sluggish bookings were the reason for the latest price war.

Prices were undercut for one holiday arrangement after another, as they have been in West Germany this year too, and holidaymakers could hardly be blamed for making hay while the sun shone.

So it is hardly surprising that the Flug-Union shareholders, Haru and Ulaubersheim, were no longer prepared to invest a further DM1m in the company.

They first put their holdings up for sale, then offered to give them away. A private group is said to have been prepared to step in but was reportedly ruled out by the majority shareholders.

The majority shareholders, Bayern-Express and P. Kühn, are both wholly owned by Deutsche Bundesbahn, the German Federal Railways, and the Bundesbahn board are said to have given the thumbs-down.

Negotiations with another interested party failed to come up trumps, it is rumoured in the trade, which left the

Lufthansa is doing much better than many other airlines. Last year the 128 airlines which are members of IATA lost roughly DM4.5bn.

Lufthansa's turnover last year was nearly five per cent up, at DM8.1bn, and although air traffic was DM113.5m in the red the company's performance is improving.

In 1981 operations in this sector run at a loss that was DM64m higher. Other company activities netted a profit of DM146m, leaving Lufthansa DM33m in the black on balance. The

overall surplus of DM45m was nearly DM40m better than the year before. The overall surplus includes DM21m in profits remitted by subsidiaries of which Condor, the charter operator, accounted for DM93m.

Lufthansa ordinary shares and debentures will be paying a five-per-cent dividend for 1982.

above the airline's existing European services. At present the plans look like being put into practice by Lufthansa before a competitor allows in.

The new routes will be flown by DLT, in which Lufthansa holds a stake. So the national airline should have developments under control, just as the DLT plans stand a fair chance of success.

Free market economists are rightly upset by the idea that Lufthansa seems to have a hand in everything. But the solution in the pipeline should be an improvement on the existing situation.

The most striking disparities in services between German airports will hopefully be eliminated as soon as possible.

Lufthansa in sight of the cloud
with the silver(ish) lining

Board chairman Heinz Ruhnau admits that good luck was on the airline's side. Fuel prices, for instance, were up only one pfennig to 72 pfennigs per litre, which was substantially below what had been expected.

Fuel consumption was down seven per cent, boosting productivity and further cutting costs per ton-kilometre.

Since Lufthansa carried roughly 400,000 tons of freight and 60,000 tons of mail this made a handsome contribution toward profits.

Lufthansa carried 14 million passengers, or roughly the same as the year before. Herr Ruhnau noted that the proportion of business-class passengers had been maintained at roughly 60 per cent.

On domestic routes 85 per cent of passengers travel business.

Market trends varied widely in 1982. Traffic was up on Far and Middle East

services. At present the plans look like being put into practice by Lufthansa before a competitor allows in.

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(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 7 June 1983)

company with no choice but to call in the receiver.

The travel trade is by no means alone in wondering why the Bundesbahn failed to stave off the collapse of Flug-Union with only three weeks to go to the start of the Berlin summer holidays.

It is hardly surprising that a closer look is being taken at Bundesbahn stakes in other travel companies. It holds 50.1 per cent of the share capital of Deutsches Reisebüro, for instance, which in its turn holds an 11.599-per cent stake in TUI.

The railways also hold a 55-per-cent shareholding in the Bavarian travel agency that holds a further 11.599-per cent stake in TUI.

Other TUI shareholders include Hapag-Lloyd, the shipping company, and the Springer Group newspapers *Hamburger Abendblatt* and *Die Welt*.

The trade has a sneaking suspicion that the Bundesbahn was deliberately willing to allow Flug-Union to close down because most holidaymakers who had booked with Flug-Union would probably switch to TUI.

In terms of bookings TUI is certainly head and shoulders ahead of the rest for air tours in Berlin. Flug-Ring and NUR are equal second, closely followed by Unger.

Local operators are frankly talking in terms of West German companies going all out to force them out of business, and no-one knows what will happen if they succeed.

H. v. Przychojowski
(Der Tagesspiegel, 5 June 1983)

ton routes only (by 14 and 21 per cent respectively).

"Were it not for these high sales," Herr Ruhnau says, "we could not have succeeded in stabilising demand."

The 34,000 members of Lufthansa's staff had also produced quality by virtue of their commitment and their performance. They contributed heavily toward the results.

Yet the airlines plans to dispense with the services of 660 flight engineers. "We are working on the assumption that by 1995 we will be flying only aircraft with two men in the cockpit," the board chairman says.

Improvement

By then 170 will have retired, 235 are to be retrained as pilots and the remaining 250 or so will either be retained as ground staff or paid off, with redundancy money.

That should further cut the cost of flying. Last year the cost increased at a lower rate (4.3 per cent) than earnings (4.8 per cent).

Herr Ruhnau claimed this made a vital contribution toward the airline's fine performance.

This year should be even better. The first quarter was certainly better than in 1982.

The number of passengers was up nearly two per cent to 3.2 million, while air freight was up 4.5 per cent to 104,988 tons.

"If the trend continues," he said, "we should reach our target of two per cent more passengers and 5.5 per cent more freight."

(Saarbrücker Zeitung, 2 June 1983)

Anna Seghers, who has died in East Berlin, was as old as the century and would have been 83 on 17 November.

Her death marks the end of a chapter in the history of socialist German writing and of German literature as a whole.

She was the last of the great writers of middle-class origin who joined forces with a working class that itself now no longer exists.

Her parents in Mainz were middle-class Jews and she grew up in a home where the bourgeois traditions of the arts were staunchly upheld.

Schiller was one of the writers she particularly appreciated as a girl. He was soon joined by Dostoyevsky, whose influence is apparent in so many ways in her early work.

She read art history and Sinology at university, and borrowed her nom-de-plume (her real name was Netty Reiling) from Hercules Seghers, a contemporary of Rembrandt's.

The first work she had published as Anna Seghers was already written in a style that was unmistakably her own.

1928 was the year in which she both joined the Communist Party and made a name for herself as a writer with her short novel *Aufstand der Fischer von St. Barbara* (Uprising of the Fishermen of St. Barbara).

It was written in a laconic style that

Grass elected chairman of arts academy

Writer Günter Grass has been elected president of the Academy of Arts in West Berlin. He takes over from architect Werner Düttmann, who held the post for nearly 12 years until he died last January.

It is a three-year term. There were several candidates, but Grass is said to have commanded majority support at the first ballot of the 80 members present.

The academy has over 200 members, of whom some live outside Berlin. Grass, 55, has for years lived in Berlin and north Germany.

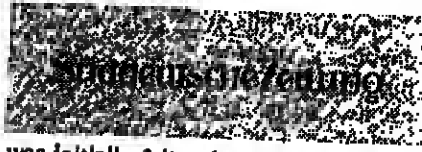
His new vice-president is Berlin sculptor Rolf Szymanski, 54, who was previously head of the academy's fine arts section.

His old job has been taken over by Eberhard Roters, director of the Berlinische Galerie.

dpa
(General-Anzeiger Bonn, 6 June 1983)

LITERATURE

Veteran writer's death closes a chapter



was initially felt to be "manly." It won her the Kleist Prize, one of the most prestigious literary awards in the Weimar Republic.

She played an active part in the work of the Proletarian-Revolutionary Writers' League as a member of which she made this acquaintance of Georg Lukács, whose exact opposite she was to become 10 years later, in exile.

She went into exile as soon as the Nazis came to power. Her novel *Kopf-Im-Hand* (Head-Money) was one of the first literary reactions to German Fascism.

It tells an impressive and forceful tale of farm life before and immediately after 1933.

In 1934 she was in Austria to study the background of the Fabryus uprising. But France, especially Paris, came to mean home for her in exile.

She spent her time sitting writing at café tables in the French capital. Her output included *Die Rettung* (The Rescue), 1937, a novel that testified to the solidarity that was a hallmark of the working-class movement until its destruction.

At congresses held to defend the arts in the 1930s she spoke up in national patriotism for German culture, which faced destruction at the hands of the Third Reich.

Her novel *Das siebte Kreuz* (The Seventh Cross) was arguably the supreme expression of her "love of the Fatherland" (the title of her speech at the 1935 congress in defence of the arts).

In both literary and political terms it was the most important German novel to be written in exile during the Nazi era.

It tells the tale of seven prisoners who escape from a Nazi concentration camp. One is not caught, being finally smuggled out of the country.

It is a tale of hope: hope that Fascism's powers of self-destruction would prove its undoing.

It is an extraordinary tale of the ordinary lives of ordinary people. Everyday life plays a leading part in rescuing the hero, Georg Heister.

He succeeds in escaping from Ger-

many because a number of different people feel pulled on to do something to assure he gets away. They do so without cross-reference, as it were.

Franz Marret, Heister's friend, expresses this specific utopia that is included in the novel as follows:

"After it is all over I would still like to be where I am now, but differently. In the same firm, but a different person. To work here for us... and it must all be here."

In the prologue she paints a forceful picture of the Rhenish countryside to which she lays claim despite the homeland mythology of Fascism.

Das siebte Kreuz depicted resistance to the Nazis. It was not a one-sided resistance and was shown in social depth.

This film version, directed by Fred Zinnemann and starring Spencer Tracy, may well have made a lasting mark on the view of Germany held in the United States during the Second World War.

Transit, 1944, was a more personal account of life in exile. It tells the tale of a German worker holed up in Marseilles waiting for a US visa. He eventually stays behind.

In a sense it is the tale of Anna Seghers herself, who only just managed, with her husband and children, to escape the Vichy police.

But late in life she claimed never to have undergone crises, and she was indeed an optimist who survived more than the years of exile in which she emerged as a leading voice from Mexico.

In exile she was busy drawing up plans for a post-war Germany in which she planned to return as soon as she could.

She returned to the Soviet Zone and served the new German state in the making there. She was head of what was to become the GDR Writers' Association from 1952 to 1978.

So she was in her late 70s before she



Parlman sala tables workbench... Anna Seghers.

(Photo: Lohm)

retired from a job she took and her post-war writing that of a historical change.

But she failed to equal the she set in exile, and the end of the 1940s, especially *Die Entscheidung* (The Decision) and *Das Vertrauen* (The Trust), has dropped by almost half in the West.

Given real life and history in the GDR it was hard to them in the Federal Republic by us chronicles of the new state she wanted and hoped the New Man it was expected.

Later, in the 1970s, she material that called to mind work.

Stories such as *Das weiße Überflut* and *Sonderbare* were impressive highlights of which none of the GDR authors would have been.

In terms of its policy it was an emancipation from the dogmatic realism and opened up the way in which, for instance, the work of Helmut Müller was able to shape.

(Continued on page 14)

EDUCATION

Dropping birthrate drives secondary schools to bid for pupils

difficult not to write a satire on German school system. One joke the headmasters of our highly-regarded *Gymnasien* (high schools) are to the streets with a lasso to a few more pupils.

There is a growing suspicion that are not that important any more *Gymnasien*. All that matters is that school has pupils.

Parents interested in sending their to a *Gymnasium* (as opposed to *Gesamtschule* or comprehensive) are informed by the headmaster they will have to wait and see how many children turn up for next year's class.

The Education Ministries repeatedly schools against resorting to inadvisable advertising practices.

The whole problem is the result of a slump in birth rates ever since the end of the sixties.

The recruitment ratio, or as statisticians put it, the family "reproduction ratio", has dropped by almost half in the West.

Its development has led to a situation which could not be more paradoxical.

Whereas the colleges and universities still moaning and groaning about a growing surge of students and are finding it increasingly difficult to fulfil educational and training tasks set without reducing standards in re-

search and teaching, our education system is drying up at grass roots.

Politicians and pressure groups are faced by almost insoluble problems.

Can educational policies simultaneously overcome the problem of overcrowding (in colleges/universities) and shrinkage (in elementary schools)?

Public discussion on education still centres on the labour market problems presented by the fact that the generation born in years in which there were high birth rates is now looking for work.

The concern about a possible surplus of academics must be relaxed by an appreciation of the new problems at the very basis of the educational system.

Too many politicians seek refuge in the popular practice of looking for ideological scapegoats to take the blame for the malaise instead of concentrating on the problems at hand.

It is all too obvious that many find it difficult to accept the fact that the reason for this problem does not lie in misdirected educational policies but in a fateful demographic watershed.

The abrupt change of scenario, however, does cast an informative light on our educational system.

It shows how ill-suited its three-tier system is to cope with the changes required.

The growing competition between the individual schools (and types of

schools) together with the parents' desire to obtain the best possible education for their children may mean that secondary modern schools drop out of the running.

At the same time, efforts by philologists to maintain the achievement-oriented and exclusive character of the *Gymnasien* will be undermined by the increased competition.

The basic law of supply and demand threatens to make irrelevant all the profound debates on the meaning and significance of *Gymnasium* education.

In our qualification-mindedness, its role is reduced to that of an educational institution which provides the most valuable and worthwhile qualification going.

Even up to now, parents have done everything to make sure their children have to opportunity to enjoy the fruits of this system, regardless of any talent or achievement-based reservations.

Attempts by *Gymnasien* to oppose such trends have not been all that successful.

Now that *Gymnasien* have to worry about their very existence and ability to function, their interest in erecting more difficult entrance barriers is likely to wane.

As long as the number of secretaries and assistants depends on the number of pupils, as long as the reformed secondary stage of education needs

enough pupils to maintain its system of grouping pupils into special courses, *Gymnasien* will do their utmost to attract as many children as possible.

The loud complaints by the various education ministries about the relaxed attitude some *Gymnasien* have towards achievement will do nothing to change this.

Society's qualification-mindedness is now relentlessly demanding its price.

The struggle between the school to get their fair share of children has already begun. The prospects for secondary modern schools (*Hauptschule*) aren't too good.

All the set phrases about the alleged equal value of secondary modern education and all the tricks used by politicians in recent years to enhance the status of this school category are worthless in the face of competition to get the best qualifications.

The secondary modern school, for example in Bavaria, doesn't even provide the children with their first public examination (at the age of 15 or 16).

Here, there are only nine years of education, whereas ten years are necessary before the first examination can be taken.

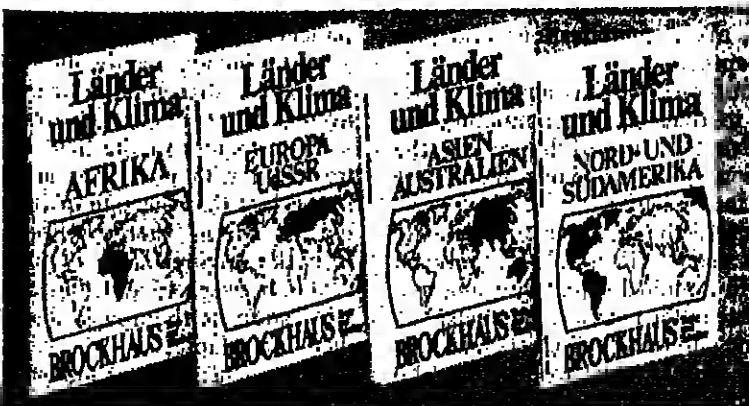
It is not hard to imagine how parents will react in future if they receive a friendly letter from a *Gymnasium* headmaster asking them to consider sending their child to his school.

Is there any way of preventing the secondary modern schools from disintegrating into schools for "the rest," for those who didn't manage to get a place in a *Gymnasium* or who decided for social reasons not to take part in the competition for the best qualifications?

There is a growing conflict between

Continued on page 14

Meteorological stations all over the world



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Road to hell

Continued from page 11

Stein's original play to the story of the Creation.

The tree of knowledge of good and evil towers over the playing area between the audience, surrounded by significant forbidden fruit (apples).

Kazuko Watanabe designed the stage-set and the costumes, which range from modern-day to the American pioneer period.

A great deal appears to be highly subjective addition. The humming choir, for example, which creates a mystic atmosphere before the play begins, or the "ballet" scene, where the actors writhe on their seats after Natter bites Margarete.

Sometimes, Tabari introduces his very personal themes, smothering the original text. One example is when the actors consider how to eliminate the "lad" and the dog, thinking up the most horrible torture fantasies.

On the whole, however, Tabari and the actors themselves (Jacobsen as Faust, Klaus Fischer as Mephisto, Silvia Fenz as Margarete, Ursula Höpfner

us Natter, Sandra Markus as the Karl Lumber as the dog, Georg Boke, Klaus Redlin, Renate Fenz put on an exciting and captivating performance.

Their collective acting, often established its own harmonious theatre between ritual and intuition, between intellectual sensuality, transposing Stein's film into vivid images.

Stanley Walden, the man piano, composed his own jazz for the performance.

Although his sound patterns are lodes, inspired by Charles Jimmy Giuffrè and even Beethoven, helped the actor, there is whether it helped bring out the self more clearly. Maybe there is too much singing.

Admittedly, there is an underlonging by Faust at the end of to go to Hell.

The fact that he is not saved by this part of Faust's character.

This production in Cologne the wide spectrum of possible this kind of theatre. It was plenty of applause at the end.

Rainer H...

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 1983)

